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College Library.

HAMILTON LIFE

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College

VOL. XII CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1910 No. 30

K. P. WON BY SHERWIN

Dounce a Good Second

As his father had done before him, in the Class of '67, so, on Wednesday night, in the Stone Church, Sidney Allyn Sherwin, Jr., won the Clark Prize in Oratory, perhaps the most satisfying single achievement of the four years on the Hill. That his victory was a foregone conclusion does not imply that he had incompetent competition, for the 55th K. P. was the most even and clean-cut exhibition within the memory of the present college generation.

Generally one man and sometimes two stand out prominent among the six chosen speakers. In 1906, Purdy and Stryker, with two strangely different types of oratory, held the judges in a memorable deadlock, which threw into confusion the Freshman Frolic that was scheduled to follow. In 1907 Clark's speaking, so almost crystalline in its perfection, outshone the others, all handicapped by one thing or another. This year it was Sherwin and Dounce, each compelling attention by something quite his own.

Sherwin wins and won by two pre-eminent qualities, a rich, full voice and a remarkable intelligence of interpretation, which guides that voice thru shades of meaning his fellows cannot hope to bestow upon their own orations. It would be difficult to say whether Sherwin suffers or gains from lack of grace. At all events, lacking it, he has thrown certain prim niceties of the platform to the winds, and has devoted his attention to saying what he means—and he is apt to mean a lot—with so much native force that he fairly takes us by the throat. He is a born speaker. As some one has said—perhaps it was Prof. A. P. Saunders—Sherwin could fascinate an audience by declaiming a table of logarithms.

He spoke of "American Lawlessness," and seized upon its possibilities far more keenly than did Mix, who spoke just before him on the same subject. Disrespect of law, taught in the high places and forced upon the lowly, is full of effective portent. There lie better shivers in the lawlessness of Standard Oil than in that of Tammany Hall.

Had there been a second prize it would have fallen without argument to Dounce. So a Utica paper said editorially and so said nearly all that evening in the Stone Church. Some of the closest to Sherwin, who followed him, were worried when Dounce bowed his way off the platform. It was to have been expected that his oration on the "Unappreciated Poe" would be worth hearing. It was a surprise to many that it should have been spoken so powerfully, so deftly, that its every shaft of satire landed. It was a gratification to many that, blessedly heretical in its message as it was, it passed the lines of a Hamilton committee and was given a hearing in the Stone Church. It is said that we did not hear it quite as it was written, that one line speaking of the "non-conformist mind" was deleted at the request of the committee. An account of this bit of censorship is circulating among the alumni and to some few of them it furnishes quite the joke of the season.

Not that it mattered at all. The oration as it stood was a biting excoriation of the prudery that has sought to "holier-than-thou" America's one poet from his pre-eminent position. It was at once meatier and more electric than any of the six. It commanded thought. Tho there was no speaking Tuesday night of the kind that makes the listener tingle to the marrow, Dounce came nearer to it than any of the others.

Deimel spoke on "World Peace," spoke ably a well-written, well-balanced oration. He holds himself admirably in speaking, but he was in competition with minds as good and voices more musical.

There is a world of nameless horror in the subject "When China Wakes." Judson was entirely too cheerful about it. Scouting the yellow peril is perhaps the pleasantest way to face the inevitable, but it does not give such good opportunities for the good speaker. And Judson is a very good speaker. He has become a master at what may be called the flashing gesture. He can throw his entire body into it and come out unruffled. In the three years since he took second prize for speaking his voice has grown finer and more musical, perhaps thru his Glee Club training in which connection it must be admitted that in the early part of his oration Tuesday night he all but sang. And all this time he should have been making us quake a bit. It was the fault of his oration, which in turn was the fault of his view-point, all from a rhetorical consideration, of course.

Mix followed with his views on "American Lawlessness" which, to the mind of the present scribe, were not as sound as those of Sherwin, nor half as forceful for the platform. Mix, better than all the others, has the happy faculty of being able to keep his voice smooth and clear at its highest and loudest. It gives him a splendid force.

Stube spoke on "Benjamin Franklin, the Diplomat." He suffered from having written an oration that did not speak well. Admirably balanced, and bearing the marks of mature and careful thought, it was one of those orations which read so well that they elude the committee, reach the K. P. stage, and then it is the men who write them who have to pay the penalty.

Injured at Ball Game

A severe injury marred an otherwise interesting "scrub" game, held on Steuben Field last Friday afternoon, when Judson and I. A. Hall, '10, had a head-on collision as the former was attempting to score from third on an

infield hit. The accident occured in the first half of the third inning, with one man out, and Judson on third base. Hall was catching and Glover '10, was at bat. The latter drove a short infield hit, on which Judson attempted to score. He was put out at home by Hall, and in the collision which occured, Judson sustained a broken nose and Hall received a deep cut in his chin. Judson was taken to the office of Dr. MacFarland, in Clinton, where his injury was dressed, and he returned to the Hill ab ut six o'clock in the evening. About ten minutes after the accident Hall, who up to this time had appeared but slightly injured, became delirious and forgot all about the accident and how it all happened. He was removed to the Chi Psi Lodge where he was attended by Dr. MacFarland, who stated that he had suffered a slight concussion of the brain. Hall was delirious for some time after the accident but it is thought that no serious consequences will result.

It is peculiar that Judson, who has played in nearly all of the Varsity games since his Freshman year, should thus far have escaped without any injury whatever, only to be quite badly hurt in a "scrub" game.

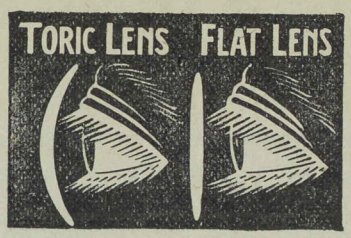
THE ANNUAL SPANKING OF THE D. T. NEOPHYTES

Saturday night occurred the annual D. T. Initiation and Banquet. Thirteen neophytes crossed the burning sands and emerged safely on the other side. The party went in on the 7:00 o'clock car, and after a short time spent about the streets, while the neophytes sold papers, bought ribbons, and made speeches, all adjourned to the Shubert Rathskellar for the banquet.

At 9:45 the Clinton car was boarded and ceremonies were continued in Clinton, with the result that thirteen Freshmen are now taking their meals from the mantle shelf.

The initiates were: Barber, Blackmar, Callahan, Evans, Kultchar, McKee, Meyer, North, Rodger, Simons, Stone, True, Woods.

Alumni who have been on the Hill during the past week and attended the K. P., are: Dodd, '63; Sherwin, '67; DeShon, '70; Barrows, '72; Colson, '87; Love and Root, '05; Williams, '08; Blodgett, Butler, Day, Lewis, Wallace, and Woollcott, '09.



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G. H. LYON . . . R. A. PORTER

WE WISH TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF THE COLLEGE to the correction of the following erroneous statement appearing on the fourth page of last week's issue of *Life*.

"No man is hereafter eligible for K. P. who does not elect the course in 'Psychology of Rhetoric' third term Sophomore."

Surely it was far from our purpose to suggest any change in the rules that govern K. P. eligibles or to add a new course to the College curriculum. We can not even blame the printer for the mistake. The statement as quoted was contained in the original copy, which we carelessly accepted and printed without verification from the proper authorities.

DURING THE PAST YEAR the Press Club, which heretofore has existed and served only as a convenient addition to the list of honors for the pages of the *Hamiltonian*, was taken in hand by Renwick and Engs, '10, and thoroly organized and put upon a working basis. As a result the affairs of the College have been brought to the attention of many people who otherwise might never hear of the advantages of Hamilton.

E. H. Jones, '11, the recently-elected President of the Club, will have charge of the work next year and has already laid some excellent plans for the further success of the Club. Unlike other branches of College activities, the Press Club is unfortunate in that it has absolutely no means of revenue and, while the work is an individual undertaking, having no connection with the Advisory Board, we could hardly expect the men who devote so much of their time to also finance the scheme from which the College, as a whole, receives the benefit. A sum of fifty dollars would probably run the Club for nearly a year.

Would it not be well for the College to recommend this expenditure to be made by the Athletic Association with the understanding that a slight extra charge be added to our next Athletic Tax?

AN UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT, occuring last week, has resulted in straining, almost to the breaking point, our athletic relations with Rochester University. Some unfavorable comment was current only the previous week, being occasioned by the withdrawal of the Rochester team from the field during the Baseball game with the Varsity on the Rochester Campus, and their refusal to play the five innings previously agreed upon by the captains of both teams—rather unsportsmanlike as some of us thought.

Following close upon this incident was the cancellation by Rochester last Monday of the Dual Meet which was to have been held last Saturday on Steuben Field. The Meet was arranged for, and the contracts were signed on the 10th of last January, and not until the 30th of May, the day of the Intercollegiate Track Meet, and less than a week before the date of the Meet, did Manager Martin have any intimation that Rochester intended to cancel. It was then, of course, too late for another Meet to be arranged, and as a result the Track Department will be losers to a considerable extent and several men who have worked hard all the season will not have a chance to participate in a College Meet.

The Rochester management assures us that the reason for its action was that the date for the Meet conflicted with their Senior Examinations and regretted this interference with their scholastic duties. We learn however, from Rochester alumni that several track men of that University are at present injured and the team is crippled by their absence. Surely we are not to believe that Rochester would break her contracts—to say nothing of the etiquette of intercollegiate athletics—and cancel a Meet merely becaus victory was uncrtain.

In either case, Rochester seems to have a weak position. The Rochester manager, at the time the Meet was contracted, must have known of the conflict with the Senior Examinations. If he did the Meet should not have been arranged by him, and if he did not, then he was inexcusably careless. If, on the other hand, a consideration of the possible outcome of the Meet influenced the Rochester management to cancel at the eleventh hour, then we are justified in considering their attitude, at best, unsportsmanlike.

REVIEW OF THE MAY *LIT.*

Every Hamilton man into whose hands a copy of the May *Lit.* has come has certainly enjoyed a comfortable touch of pride at finding the best of it so good. And every old *Lit.* editor reading the lamentation of the brick-maker, has certainly found its echo in his memory and has judged very mildly an occasional weakness in this same May number.

There would be little point in cataloging the qualities of individual articles. Indeed I rather think the chief use of such reviews as this is that they give some of us alumni a chance to contradict the dark misgivings of the editorial and assure those men who have done the work, it does mean much to us "that a worthy publication is attempted in Hamilton."

"The Campus Birds" would be good reading in any magazine. A certain boldness of word and phrase gives the article a fresh independence, a touch of original character which every good piece of work must have and which no one of the other contributions equals. Without some audacity there can be no originality. The richness of the Campus population is an astonishment, I venture, to most of the men who had thought they knew the Campus pretty well by heart; and small doses of nature-faking would find commendation from Africa itself—or is it England just now—when they are mixed with equal parts of playfulness.

Let me pick out one other characteristic of the "Birds"—shared, at least in tendency, by "Home" and "A Custom of Old Hamilton." They do well in finding beauty in scenes the writers know, and interest in common

experiences. A good ghost story is probably worth writing and worth reading; and "If a Man Walk" comes near success. The stage door and the opera singer are pretty well established as effective story-ingredients; and some commendation might be found for their employment in "The Last Curtain." These two particular sketches may also be built on a particularly close first-hand acquaintance with bloody apparitions and Roman castles and dieing divas, and if so they are commended by this criticism. But one may at least suspect their origin lay less in a genuine appreciation of the known, and more in the vague fascination we all feel in the unknown and the inexperienced. Isn't it a weakness in a story that its effectiveness should depend even in part on some credulity or ignorance in the reader? I do not argue that all art should be confined to portrayal of the prosaic and commonplace. But true art, it seems to me, is rather a discovery and revelation of the real—better perhaps of the ideal in the real—and would not willingly depend on a sort of pretence or fraud. Such art is high, we cannot attain unto it, not suddenly at least; and all this is said more in gratification at the effort and success shown in some of the *Lit's* work than in real criticism of the rest that attempted an easier thing, with fair result too. "Half a Romance" seems divided between the two tendencies, good bits of description and introspective analysis set in a plot which is essentially unreal.

The editor can probably give a very short and simple explanation of the preponderance in this number of short and sketchy, not to say scrappy material; some longer articles would give better balance if they were procurable. Perhaps because a Congressional Record and a Collected Sermons proved rather low-grade mines, at any rate the two brief character-sketches are without special success. The keen selection of lines and lights, the omission of all but the really essential is admittedly hard enough, but must after all be required of any writing that would accomplish a portrait in a few words. It seems a safe guess, too, that in the article on President Backus the sentence which is the most striking, as being one that doesn't say the proper, conventional and expected, is to be credited rather to the typesetter than the author; or is there some caustic intention behind the remark that tho the gentleman was dignified he still had a perception of "honor?"

The work in the *Lit.* deserves criticism only in the sense of appreciative and evaluating comment, but some polemic criticism should come the way of the drones in Hamilton's literary hive. The Board and the contributors—the terms aren't quite synonymous—have done well. But you, gentle reader, if you are one of the many careless and unproductive, have done far from well and must bear the blame for any weakness in an underfed *Lit.* This summer will give you a hundred opportunities to try your own hand on a piece of work that will do you good anyway and may save an editor from suicide. A man who hasn't made verses can't appreciate poetry; a man who has never written a story of his own can't possibly enjoy all the art in a good one he finds. Really "The *Lit.*" should be a required course.

C. H. Toll, '04.

PRIZE STAB

Sophomore Prize Stab appointees contested for Prize Stage at the last Wednesday Chapel. Declamations were all well chosen, and from their delivery showed the results of much preparation. The contest was fully up to the standard of Sophomore speakers.

The following men participated:

Adams, Bagg, Bedenkapp, Edick, Knox, Peters, Plant, Pratt, Slaughter, Thompson, Warren, West.

Freshman Prize Stab was held at the last Saturday Chapel. The showing made was excellent, superior to the Sophomore contest. No speaker stood out especially before the others, as is often the case, and the judges will have a close decision. The participants follow.

Brownell, Clapp, Clark, Fear, Groves, Hughes, Lyon, Myer, Rodger, Stone, Wassung, Wheelock.

TEAM ELECTIONS

The Baseball and Track Team pictures were taken Friday afternoon. Afterwards the teams elected captains for the coming season. As only the "H" men were allowed in the picture, the number in each case was small.

Percy Melville Allen, '11 of Paulding O., was elected Captain of Baseball. Allen played at first, Freshman year, but owing to illness, was out of the game the greater part of last season. This year he started the game at third, but because of Drummond's inability to work in the box, Allen was shifted to the pitching staff, where he has borne the brunt of the season's work. He has good speed and curves and possesses a thoro knowledge of the game. He should make a successful leader.

Ralph Brownell Colson, '11, of New York Mills, was elected Captain of Track. He is a fast man in the hurdles and sprints and good in both the jumps. He had been in the team since Freshman year and always one of the point winners. He holds the record for the low hurdles, formerly held by Sicard, '06. He should be a worthy successor to ex-Capt. Knox, '10.

The following men have been awarded the Baseball "H": Judson, Titus, '10; Allen and Sidle, '11; Knox, Hallock, Root, and Watkins, '12; Woods, '13.

The following have been awarded the Track "H": Knox, Abbott, Baldwin, Sherwin, and Wheeler, '10; Colson, and Gaige, '11; Eggleston, '12; Wenigman and Shaul, '13.

—Dr. Stryker's Commencement Ode, the music for which was written by Blodgett, '82, is being rehearsed each Friday evening at Choir practice in preparation for Commencement.

—Lyon and Wenigmann, '13, have been added to the list of candidates for Assistant Manager of Football.

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VARSITY LOSES TO COLGATE IN FAST GAME

Altho the weather conditions under which the Varsity played Colgate Thursday were not the best for Baseball, nevertheless the game was without doubt the best seen on the Hill this season. The grounds were rather soggy from the previous day's rain, which was responsible for the postponement of the game, as scheduled, and at times the ball was so spongy that it was almost impossible to hit it fairly, but the eagerness of the players and their almost errorless fielding kept interest pitched to the highest degree.

The game was pre-eminently a pitcher's battle, as only eight hits were made by the two teams. Hammond apparently had the best of the argument, allowing only three hits, one pass, and fanning eight men. Only once was his pail of whitewash in danger of being upset, and that in the third, when Allen beat a bunt, reached second on a sacrifice and third on an infield out. Here Hammond again took up the reins and struck the third man out. Allen, on the other hand, altho allowing five hits and four passes, pitched a fine game, and would have let his opponents down with but one run had not an error in the ninth enabled the second score to trot home.

The first run came in the sixth inning, when Platt hit safely to center and continued on to third on Campbell's hard drive to right for two bases. Hammond was out at first by a nice play from short but Platt scored on the play. In the ninth, with one down, Allen passed Musk and Rich. Dobbins hit to second, forcing Rich, but in an attempt to double the runner at first Hallock threw low, and Musk walked home.

From the start the game was fast and interesting. The fielding of the Varsity was commendable and at times approached the sensational. Hallock played a fine game at short, and if the Colgate batsman expected to find a hole in his field they were mistaken for he accepted his nine chansces without a slip and with the exception of one poor throw, played an errorless game. Knox caught his usual steady game, altho somewhat inaccurate in throwing, undoubtedly on account of the wet ball. In the eighth Allen drew a cheer by fielding an infield hit that bore the earmarks of a safety, thus shutting off a run. The real bright feature, however, came in the seventh, when, with two out and two on bases, Judson knocked down Jones' hit-bent liner and tagged the runner at third. This was the finest bit of Baseball seen on the Hill this season.

The real cause of our defeat was the inability of the team to hit. However, the team set a faster pace than it has usually followed, and the pity is the more that the season is not longer, so that the team should demonstrate its real ability.

The score:

COLGATE	A.B.	R.	1B.	P.O.	A.	E.
Jones, 1b	4	0	0	12	1	0
Platt, 2b	4	1	2	3	2	0
Campbell, 2b	4	0	1	0	1	0
Hammond, p	4	0	0	1	5	0
Collins, rf	4	0	0	1	0	0
Chapman, lf	4	0	2	1	0	0
Mupsk, ss	3	1	0	1	2	0
Rich, c	1	0	0	8	1	0
Dobbins, cf	4	0	5	0	0	0
	32	2	5	27	12	0

HAMILTON	A.B.	R.	1B.	P.O.	A.	E.
Root, lf	4	0	2	0	0	0
Judson, 3b	4	0	0	2	3	0
Knox, c	4	0	0	6	0	0
Allen, p	2	0	1	1	3	0
Woods, 1b	1	0	0	10	0	0
Sidle, rf	3	0	0	0	0	0
Getman, cf	3	0	0	2	0	0
Hallock, ss	3	0	0	3	6	1
Titus, 2b	3	0	0	2	1	1
	27	0	3	26	13	2

Colgate	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	—2
Hamilton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—0

Earned runs—Colgate 1. Two base hit—Campbell. Sacrifice hits—Woods, Hammond. Struck out—By Allen 5, by Hammond 8. Bases on balls—Off Allen 4, off Hammond 2. Hit by pitched ball—Platt. Time of game —1:20. Umpire—Barber, Utica.

HILL NOTES

—The Hall of Science is being painted.

—Prof. A. P. Saunders was in New York last week.

—Professor Squires will resume his classes next year.

—Allen, '11, is at his home in Paulding, O. this week.

—Prof. Hollands has accepted a professorship at Cornell for the coming year.

—H. P. Osborne, '09, who has been in California since his graduation, has returned East.

—E. P. Powell, '67, had an article in the June *Outing* in which there were several photographs of the Hill.

—"A May Etching," a poem by Clinton Scollard, '81, was published in a recent number of *The Pathfinder.*

—Senator Elihu Root, '64, had a long interview with ex-President Roosevelt, at the home of Ambassador Andrew D. White, in London, Eng., last Tuesday.

—Two more men have been announced as candidates for Assistant Manager of *Lit,* the list now comprising Davis, Heidner, and Sherwood, '13.

—Blackmar, '13, has withdrawn from the *Life* competition.

—The Senior Banquet will be held on June 14th, at the Royal Arcanum instead of at Bagg's Hotel, as was announced in last week's issue of *Life.*

—The 1911 *Hamiltonian* will be on sale on the 16th of this month. An exceptionally fine number is promised.

—Rev. George H. Allen, '08, of Auburn Theological Seminary, will preach at Inlet Chapel on Fourth Lake during the summer.

—Rev. Henry White and Rev. J. D. Ibbotson have returned from Atlantic City, where they attended the General Assembly Conference.

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